

THE RIVER OF RECAPITULATION OF THE ANGLO-JAPANESE ALLIANCE

WIRE SHIP TONNAGE DESIRED BY JAPAN

Want 70 Instead of the 60 Per Cent. in Hughes Plan.

MEANS A DREADNOUGHT

Official Mission Asks Japanese Correspondents to Vote on Question.

TWO DIVERGENT OPINIONS

Some Object to Scrapping the Battleship Mutsu, as Secretary Advised.

Special Despatch to THE NEW YORK HERALD.

Washington, D. C., Nov. 16. (Associated Press.)—The members of the Japanese mission are in serious disagreement over the tonnage ratio Japan should insist upon in agreeing to the American proposals for the limitation of the navies of the three naval powers.

The question is whether Japan should be satisfied with capital ship tonnage equal to 60 per cent. of the United States and Great Britain as suggested by Secretary Hughes or demand 70 per cent. as desired by some of the Japanese naval experts. It is a matter roughly of about 30,000 tons, or one dreadnought.

So heated is the debate going on among members of the mission that the newspaper correspondents who are in Washington to report the proceedings for the Japanese newspapers will hold a meeting to-morrow to give their views on the subject. The newspaper men themselves are not in agreement, and the outcome of the meeting is doubtful.

The correspondents who are looking after the interests of Japan as well as writing for their newspapers have been brought into the discussion by members of the official mission. They will vote on the question of whether the mission is to be presented asking the Japanese delegation to recede from any idea of demanding an increase from 60 to 70 per cent. in naval ratio. If the resolution is carried it will be presented to the official delegation.

The issue came up over the question of the Japanese battleship Mutsu, which Secretary Hughes recommended to be scrapped. It has been understood by the American Government that the battleship had been launched and is on the way to completion. The Japanese say, however, that she not only has been completed but is in commission. They want, therefore, to retain her as a unit of the fleet. If this vessel were to be kept it would mean that the Japanese ratio would be increased to 60 per cent. of the other fleets, so far as capital ships were concerned.

The group that opposes the request for an increase in the ratio takes the stand that Japan would be making a grave mistake in asking for 70 per cent. not so much that the increase would be desirable from a Japanese national point of view, but on the ground that such an increase might be interpreted by the United States and elsewhere in the world. They are of the opinion that Japan might gain much more by agreeing entirely to the American proposals, leaving the battleship in question, and hoping to move up for the loss in political considerations.

There is the realization, too, that the insistence that the ratio be increased might furnish ammunition for the anti-Japanese press in the United States as well as the pacifist press in Japan.

Except for this talk the consideration of Japanese acceptance of the American proposals was allowed to slide quietly along to-day while Far Eastern questions were discussed.

FIXING THE PROPORTION OF BIG NAVAL POWERS

Britain Has Most Coast, Japan Densest Population.

WASHINGTON, Nov. 16. (Associated Press.)—The reported intention of the Japanese delegation to the armament conference to ask a higher ratio of naval armaments for Japan than Great Britain and the United States than the 60 per cent. fixed in the American plan gives added interest to statistical comparisons of the three countries.

Extent of coast line and part determines the need of naval forces. The United States has 40,206 nautical miles of coast, as compared to 50,938 for the British empire, and 21,048 for Japan. On the basis of their existing and projected naval fleets, each country would have per mile of coast line as follows: United States, fifty tons; British empire, forty tons; and Japan, sixty-one tons. Population might also be considered and the figures are:

United States, 118,832,000, including Alaska possessions; British empire, 459,422,000 on the same basis, and Japan, 78,601,000.

BRITISH AMENDMENTS CONFINED TO 2 POINTS

Representatives Clarify Their Attitude.

WASHINGTON, Nov. 16. (Associated Press.)—Severe criticisms in certain leading British Liberal newspapers of what they regard as reservations proposed by the British delegation to the American naval reduction proposals are based on a misconception of the actual attitude of the delegation, say British representatives here.

They stressed their commitment to continuation of a small amount of naval construction during the ten year holiday and pointed out that Arthur J. Balfour, the delegation head, had developed strong objection to the construction of large submarines and generally to the use of submarines at all in war. But beyond that they say they are not positively committed to any substantial amendments to the American programme.

Regarding the plan of keeping one small naval building yard in operation in each country during the naval holiday, it is urged by the British experts that this is necessary in order to keep the ships in repair and perhaps to replace any ship that might be lost through accident.

TO AVOID OBSTACLE OF JAPANESE PACT

Maurice Low Calls Alliance Stumbling Block Which Will Be Removed.

By A. MAURICE LOW.

Correspondent of the London Morning Post.

Special Despatch to THE NEW YORK HERALD.

Washington, D. C., Nov. 16. (Associated Press.)—The work of the conference done in the presence of the public is over. The second meeting of the committee in the presence of the public has been about to begin. The public has been so fed up on thrills that it does not take kindly to secrecy. It is highly enjoyed the show. The men interest it. Americans love oratory. They would willingly sit for several hours and hear noted statesmen speak, especially if every speech was as dramatic in its surprises as that of Mr. Hughes on Saturday.

The truth is the public was a trifle disappointed at yesterday's session. After Saturday anything was possible, everything might be expected; and the public, reading in some newspapers that Mr. Hughes was going to follow up his success at the opening day by announcing in equally specific and precise terms the American programme for the settlement of Far Eastern questions, expected much.

Of course Mr. Hughes did nothing of the kind. Naturally he never had the faintest idea of doing it, because he is too wise a man. One does not make the same blunders twice if one wishes to preserve a reputation for brilliancy. Mr. Hughes scored and he was content to rest on that success.

There was an alternative offered; the Japanese, noting the popularity of open diplomacy, would follow Mr. Hughes' lead and lay all their cards on the table, but as that did not come off we are now told they will at the first opportunity in committee bring forward their proposals. This is not their intention. The Japanese of course have their own plans; they know what they want, what they can surrender and what is their limit. They are not going to disclose the methods of Japanese diplomacy to disclose everything before getting at least some inkling of their opponents' moves. The Japanese mission, it is said, has the obligation was imposed upon the United States to advance proposals for the limitation of armaments, so it is now incumbent upon the American delegates to outline their Far Eastern policy, and it is not for Japan to suggest a policy.

There is, of course, in this, as might be expected, a certain amount of maneuvering, of playing for position, of seeking to profit by technical advantage, for while we have been treated to an extraordinary amount of the modern diplomacy in the open old Adam still survives in the diplomats and they have not entirely cast out the traditions of their training.

Still it is to be noted as not only a hopeful but as one of the most gratifying signs of the success of the conference that the Americans and Japanese are closer than they were a few weeks ago. That much has already been accomplished by frankness and the atmosphere which has been created.

There is still a wide gulf between the two nations; there are still, as every sensible person recognizes, many problems to meet and numerous hard knots to untangle, but the labor seems less formidable than it did when the invitations to the conference were issued.

I shall not at this time allow myself to be fatuously optimistic, although in these surroundings it is a difficult thing to escape. The recognition given to the Japanese naval proposals by the British and Japanese Governments has, in the eyes of the Americans, swept away every obstacle. Americans already see the possibility of a settlement. They are down a few weeks hence. This, to speak bluntly, is nonsense. The naval details will require some time to work out and the discussion will show sharp differences of opinion which it will not, in my belief, be dangerous.

Much more difficult, as I have always maintained, is the settlement of Far Eastern questions, but the changed attitude on both sides argues well. The stumbling block is the Anglo-Japanese alliance, yet plans have been made for its removal without arousing the feelings of either Great Britain, the United States or Japan. More than that it would be unwise to say at this time. To go further might create false hopes. Suffice it to say now that what has already been done is encouraging.

'ARMS LIMIT USELESS WITHOUT PACIFIC PACT'

MELBOURNE, Nov. 16.—The Australian Government is reducing its expenditures for defence by approximately \$1,250,000, the acting Minister of Defence announced in the House of Representatives.

SAYS JAPAN FAVORS 'OPEN DOOR' POLICY

Tokio Correspondent Sure Country Does Not Fear Economic Competition.

CONSERVATISM KEYNOTE

Drastic or Radical Proposals Not Expected From Japanese Delegates.

By K. K. KAWAKAMI.

Special Correspondent of the Jiji Shimpo, Tokyo.

Special Despatch to THE NEW YORK HERALD.

Washington, D. C., Nov. 16. (Associated Press.)—Not only on the matter of naval restriction but on questions affecting China and the Far East, Japan will follow a course of sanity and moderation. She will offer no drastic proposal, nor will she make any spectacular appeal to America, for the dramatic is not the forte of the Japanese.

It is not unlikely that the Japanese delegation will submit to the conference a document setting forth in detail Japan's economic needs arising out of overpopulation and lack of raw material at home. In one of my previous articles in THE NEW YORK HERALD I have indicated the line of argument which this document if presented to the conference may follow.

Nevertheless the document will contain, I am sure, no proposal which may be characterized as drastic or radical. The Japanese delegation will ask, it is surmised, for the recognition of the principle that Japan, along with other nations, must be allowed the privilege of peaceful, non-political economic activities in the regions of Eastern Asia.

In asking for this recognition Japan is seeking no special privilege. She is merely asking that she be treated on the same basis as other nations in the arena of free competition. True, in 1915 she entered into an agreement with China by which Japanese subjects received the liberty of trade and travel, as well as leasing rights in Manchuria. But this privilege is by no means exclusive to the Japanese, because by virtue of the most favored nation clause contained in the foreign treaties of China, citizens or subjects of other countries equally enjoy the same privilege.

Not Afraid to Compete. Because of their geographical advantage the Japanese seem confident that they will not be defeated by any nation in a free economic competition in Manchuria, Siberia or Shantung. For that reason they are not only unafraid of the "open door" principle but are in favor of it. It is true that in the past there were times when some of the Japanese leaders, especially those of the military type, urged the necessity of excluding foreign railway enterprises at least from South Manchuria. But this was mainly due to the Russian menace which had long been the nightmare of the Japanese.

To-day Russia's fate in eastern Asia is yet uncertain. Disorder and lawlessness undoubtedly will continue to prevail in Siberia for some years or decades. But this condition may be considered in formulating Japan's policy in South Manchuria, especially with reference to railway enterprise. If she is to be the guardian of peace and order in that region.

And yet the menace of a disorganized lawless Russia will be more easily met than the menace of gigantic military organization that was the Czar's empire.

Realization of this changed situation cannot fail to influence Japan's policy in Manchuria. There is reason to believe that in the future Japan will welcome the reduction of the military and capital and enterprise in South Manchuria.

In America severe criticisms have been directed against the Ishii-Lansing understanding. I do not think Japan attaches much importance to that understanding. Certainly it confers no benefit upon Japan, except the unwelcome benefit of suspicion and misunderstanding. Not a few Japanese leaders advocate its abrogation. Japan out of respect to Mr. Lansing and Viscount Ishii will not volunteer to scrap that unhappy document, but I am inclined to think she will not cling to it any more than she clings to the eight-and-eight building programme in her naval armament.

Conditions Are Changed. In the last few years events have moved swiftly in Japan. The political and diplomatic ideas that prevailed in the days of the late Premier Marquis Terauchi no longer prevail in Japan to-day. This changed mental attitude of the Japanese leaders cannot fail to influence their policy in Manchuria and Shantung.

Take the case of Shantung. Japan, in her naval armament, addressed to China on September 7 last, definitely renounced the sphere of influence which had been established in Shantung by Germany and to which she succeeded in virtue of the Versailles treaty. In the China-German convention of March, 1908, it is provided:

"If within the Province of Shantung any matters are undertaken for which foreign assistance, whether in personnel, or in capital, or in material, is invited, China agrees that the German merchants concerned shall first be asked whether they wish to undertake the work and provide the materials."

Again, in China-German agreement of July, 1911, has this article: "Should the Chinese Government and merchants be short of capital for the exploitation of the mines in the districts relinquished to China by this agreement, they shall approach German capitalists for loans. If foreign materials and machinery are needed they shall purchase them from Germany. If foreign engineers are to be employed they shall engage German engineers."

Thus, Shantung, under the German regime, became a watertight sphere of influence. To emphasize this position Germany procured a railway concession from Chiao to Weihai, a railway which she never intended to build, but which she wanted, no other nation, China included, to build, because such a line, if built, might divert the prosperity of the German city of Tsingtao to the Chinese city of Chiao.

Japan, in the recent memorandum to China, proposes to do away with the sphere of influence in Shantung. She will retain no such preferential rights as were held by Germany. She even proposes to turn over into the international banking consortium, of which Germany is the dominant figure, the construction of three railway lines (including the German concession above mentioned), totalling in all about 50 miles.

Diaz Real Crow Indian and Proud of Adoption

Special Despatch to THE NEW YORK HERALD.

New York Herald Bureau.

Washington, D. C., Nov. 16. (Associated Press.)—Gen. DIAZ, Commander in Chief of the Italian army, was adopted into the Crow Nation to-day at a formal ceremony in the Willard Hotel conducted by Chief Plenty Coos, the Indian who laid a war bonnet and coupstick on the grave of America's Unknown Soldier at Arlington last Friday.

Gen. Diaz in a brief address said he was particularly glad to be adopted by the Indians because one of his forefathers was Ingo Diaz, who sailed with Columbus when he discovered America and first became acquainted with the American Indians.

ANGLO-SAXON BLOC FEARED IN FRANCE

Cabinet Firm in Opposing Army Reduction Without Written Guarantees.

Special Cable to THE NEW YORK HERALD.

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New York Herald Bureau.

Paris, Nov. 16. (Associated Press.)—There is a vague feeling of uneasiness in the French capital over developments in Washington. This feeling was accentuated to-day by a pessimistic note in despatches from some French special correspondents there, who described the British as having won a diplomatic victory.

This has engendered fears in some French minds of an Anglo-Saxon bloc, which might be applied not only to the disadvantage of the French army in its present depleted state but to the much more vital questions of France's security on the Rhine and German reparations. Whether these fears are justified remains to be seen, but the note the French press in Washington has played thus far is not sufficient to allay them.

Must Have Guarantees. At a council of Ministers, with M. Millerand presiding, it is understood that the talk was entirely of the Washington conference, with the President of France and his Ministers again expressing the conviction that France could not consent to any present army reduction in the absence of positive and written guarantees, and also that no status quo principle could be applied to the French Navy if France's interests in the way of naval defence were to be properly protected.

From private and public comment here the Washington developments have engendered a twofold feeling. First, the submarine principle will be so applied to the French navy as to prevent France from regaining her old relative position or from having a navy of any real protection. Second, the principle of being based largely on submarine development in lieu of capital ships, which she now totally lacks, as the quickest and cheapest means of giving her a decisive arm of the size needed for her coast and her colonies, and, second, that, inspired by Great Britain's acceptance of the American plan, an Anglo-Saxon bloc may be formed in Washington.

China of a four-point weight may be object it would be to conduct Chinese foreign loans, and to establish public services, with the help of Chinese capital, under such control and supervision in the part of the world as to obviate the waste of or corrupt misapplication of funds.

The business of the conference is naturally confined to the plenary sessions and the committee meetings. Conversations between the leading members of the various delegations are being actively pursued. Wednesday, for instance, M. Briand and Mr. Balfour met privately. One subject of discussion between them will doubtless be the question of land armaments, to which Mr. Balfour alluded on Tuesday.

There is some uncertainty as to the precise meaning of his suggestion that land armaments would need "to be dealt with by other schemes and in other ways." Whether the allusion was to another conference on land armaments, which seems improbable—or to the prospect that, if naval armaments are limited, France alone will fall to profit by the reduction of expenditure, or to the expediency of making some provision for the security of France against hypothetical aggression, it is at present impossible to discern.

Chasing No Chimera. Nevertheless, the hope is entertained in many quarters that means may be found in the near future to enable France to propose to forbid cruiser submarines. The Journal des Debats points out that these are the only ships really dangerous for capital ships, which is the reason why France should construct them.

"Premier Briand did not deem the time ripe to reply to Mr. Balfour on this point," it says, "but let us hope that the French delegation will do so without delay."

The Temps, clearly reflecting the official view here, lays down the thesis that no such sacrifice can be demanded until the French delegation will do so without delay.

"When the Powers agree to limit armaments they obligate themselves tacitly to go to the assistance of any one of them in danger by its limited armaments," says the Temps, which insists that the same principle should be applied to any limitation of land armaments.

"One thus returns by the route which lays over the ruins of all alliances to the fundamental principle of the League of Nations, which is to ensure the maintenance of armaments of any kind unless between all the contracting parties there is a solid obligation of mutual succor," it declares.

Palmer Sees Russia As a Check to Japan. Col. Frederick Palmer, war correspondent, predicted before the League for Political Education at the Town Hall yesterday that before the ten years of the naval holiday are up Russia will have revived and become again a Far Eastern Power providing a check to Japan.

"When that giant population awakens from its drunken spree of Bolshevism," he said, "it will look around and ask who has been picking Russia's pockets in the meantime."

Col. Palmer said Secretary Hughes' proposals were the "greatest contribution to world progress" since the American Constitution was framed. "This and more constant collaboration in promoting the tranquility and the prosperity of a ravaged world."

CZECHO-SLOVAKIA IN ACCORD.

Hughes Proposals Received Enthusiastically at Prague. WASHINGTON, Nov. 16. (Associated Press.)—The Czecho-Slovak Legation here to-day made public the following telegram received from Prague, capital of Czecho-Slovakia:

SHANTUNG PROBLEM NEARS COMPROMISE

London Editor Sees Japan as Prepared to Withdraw Conditionally.

SEES GOOD WILL PREVAIL

Confident of Open Path to Fuller Collaboration of English Speaking Nations.

By H. WICKHAM STEED.

Editor of the London Times.

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Washington, Nov. 16.—The committee on Far Eastern questions began its deliberations to-day. There seems to be a distinct possibility that these questions, which looked menacing before the conference opened, may now, in the serene atmosphere created by Mr. Hughes' speech, prove more susceptible to satisfactory adjustment. Indeed, no surprise would be felt in well informed quarters were the main work of the conference be completed by or before the end of the year.

A belief is gaining ground that the soundest method would be to secure an agreement on the limitation of naval armaments and on outstanding Far Eastern issues during the conference and to reserve other issues not immediately soluble for subsequent treatment in the spirit of trust and good will which the conference will have engendered.

In the minds of the American people the outstanding issues are, first, the limitation of naval armament; second, the suppression in accordance with it of the Anglo-Japanese alliance, and, third, the question of Shantung. The success of the conference on the first issue may now be confidently predicted. Success on the second issue also seems likely. On the third issue various statements emanating from authoritative Japanese quarters suggest readiness on the part of Japan to withdraw from Shantung and the leased territory of Kiaochow, provided that Great Britain likewise withdraw from the leased territory of Weihaiwei, which she has in the province of Shantung. Exponents of Japanese views announce further that Japan desires neither an annexation nor a protectorate over Manchuria, but a recognition of the principle that she has special interests there, based on considerations of neighborhood and on her railway and other investments.

The Siberian Problem. In regard to Siberia, Japan is alleged to desire a recognition of the principle of peaceful penetration for purposes of trade and commerce, and to be ready to complete the withdrawal of Japanese forces when there shall be organized in the Russian Far eastern Maritime province and in Siberia, a stable government capable of giving protection to Japanese subjects.

On the question of China, Japanese views appear to be less definite, though they seem to aim at the acceptance by China of a four-point weight, whose object it would be to conduct Chinese foreign loans, and to establish public services, with the help of Chinese capital, under such control and supervision in the part of the world as to obviate the waste of or corrupt misapplication of funds.

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CZECHO-SLOVAKIA IN ACCORD. Hughes Proposals Received Enthusiastically at Prague. WASHINGTON, Nov. 16. (Associated Press.)—The Czecho-Slovak Legation here to-day made public the following telegram received from Prague, capital of Czecho-Slovakia:

"The Czecho-Slovak press enthusiastically welcomed Secretary Hughes' disarmament proposals. The newspapers are expressing the hope that the practical consequences of naval disarmament will be also the reduction of the land forces in Europe. These will be considered especially by the central European States as a great step toward the unturbid and peaceful completion of their post-war reconstruction programme."

WOMAN'S FOUNDATION HAS WASHINGTON BALL

Mrs. Clarence C. Calhoun, President, Receives Guests.

Special Despatch to THE NEW YORK HERALD.

New York Herald Bureau.

Washington, D. C., Nov. 16. (Associated Press.)—Under the auspices of the Women's National Foundation, a ball and pageant was given to-night at the Willard. Members of the various foreign delegations in Washington for the armament conference were present, being entertained in one mammoth box across the hall of which were hung flags of the Powers represented.

More than 100 persons took part in the pageant "The Feast of Prosperity," a conferring country being represented by a group. Mrs. Clarence C. Calhoun, president of the foundation, received the guests, assisted by members of the board of governors. Mrs. Calhoun gave a dinner before the ball at the foundation headquarters, and others who had dined there were Mr. and Mrs. Victor Kaufmann, Judge and Mrs. Charles M. Dwyer, Mr. and Mrs. Mark Reid Yates and Mrs. Fitzhugh Lee.

BRIAND WILL DENY MILITARISTIC AIMS

French Premier Would Refute Charges of Imperialism Made Before Congress.

By GEORGES LE CHARTIER.

Correspondent of the Journal des Debats, Paris.

Special Despatch to THE NEW YORK HERALD.

Washington, D. C., Nov. 16. (Associated Press.)—The statement of M. Briand at the second session of the conference Tuesday morning has centered interest on the question of land armament.

"The question will be raised," said our Premier—"it has been raised, gentlemen, and if there is a country that desires that demands that the question of land armaments should be raised, it is France. It will come in time before the conference, and I hope I shall enjoy the opportunity and that I shall be able to state publicly in one of the meetings of this conference what France desires, and what she has done to secure it. I am convinced, gentlemen, that France, after the necessities of safety and life have been adequately secured, harbors no thought whatever of disturbing the peace of the world."

Speaking so frankly and clearly, it seems that our Premier had two aims in view. First, he obviously wants to re-emphasize the accusation of militarism and imperialism which has been publicly brought against France for the first time by ex-President Wilson in an address to the Congress in March, 1919, and a second time during the last session of the present Congress by Senator Borah, when he spoke of the debt of the Allies.

The second aim of M. Briand in his address of Tuesday seems to have been to show his readiness to fix, with the approval of the United States and of the conference, the position of France, and to reduce her army without jeopardizing her national safety.

On the first point it is to be assumed that M. Briand will insist in the first meeting of the conference that France must meet the position of France at the present time. It is not impossible that he should allude to the accusation which seems to be rather freely accepted in certain financial circles over here, according to which France is asking too high a price from Germany for her reparations and reconstruction, by which the accusation of militarism and imperialism, which has been publicly brought against France for the first time by ex-President Wilson in an address to the Congress in March, 1919, and a second time during the last session of the present Congress by Senator Borah, when he spoke of the debt of the Allies.

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